

# **American Samoa's Marine Protected Areas**

*Slowly developing a network one  
at a time*

# # of MPAs in our network?

- What is a network?
- What are components of network?

# MPAs in American Samoa

- Federal MPAs – (6)
  - Fagatele Bay Marine Sanctuary
  - Rose Atoll National Monument
  - National Park Service (4)
  - Established under federal authority – NMS, USFWS
  - Length of time since its established vary from 20+ yrs to 1yr
  - Staff - Management Plans – Management Review

# MPA's in AS (contd)

- Territory MPA's
  - 11 Village Marine Protected Areas
  - Co-managed by communities and local government
  - Established under local govt law – Am. Samoa Code Annotated Chapter 24
  - Length of time since it was established vary from 9 yrs to 3 yrs
  - Program Manager – Extension staff – Management Plan – Management Plan Review

# Challenges

- Definition of a network
- Identify important components
- How to address different jurisdictional issues
- How to address different goals among the MPAs
- Prioritizing

# Lessons learned

- To be determined

# Needs?

- Training on identifying what makes a functional MPA network
- Sustain information exchange with programs already implementing networks
- Becoming a part of the National network
- Funding

# Questions?